

THE TRUE DEMOCRAT

JOHN G. COLLINS, Proprietor.

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The True Democrat is the Official Newspaper of Leon County.

Tallahassee, Friday, August 3, 1906.

The Nausau Star says, The reason the saloons do not hold any bargain sales is that their steady customers can always get a little off any day in the week.

The St. Lucie Tribune says: "A vote for saloons is a vote against home and mother. Consider the proposition and on August 14 go to the polls and strike one blow for good, against the greatest enemy of the American fireside."

We publish in full in this issue Governor Broward's excellent speech, which was delivered before the Great Camp Review of the Maccabees at Ludington, Michigan. It has the right ring, and is altogether very interesting reading matter.

Collins of the Tallahassee True Democrat continues to make it warm these hot days for the State administration. Collins is a relentless fighter and Claude is doing his best to divert some of the True Democrat's sledge hammer blows. —Volusia Record.

Several friends and well wishers have complied with our request to send us back copies of the True Democrat. All encourage us by writing endorsement of the paper and one appreciative subscriber tells us to continue to "poke the 'rough diamond' down them, as it is doing good."

Read the splendid article headed "Flies as Causes of Disease," in other columns of this issue. If our officials, will you not see the necessity of having screens put in the city market? It is common, every day, to see the meats our people are eating literally covered with flies. More on this subject in a future issue of this newspaper.

The Ocala Banner says: "Nobody has named Joe Jennings for any office. He seems to be a developer and to that extent is in line with the gubernatorial succession." Just so, and no doubt he would fill the bill as well as would several others who have been mentioned would do, and perhaps heaps better than did a Governor who once went by the last part of that name.

Every prominent Floridian, who is a regular reader of the True Democrat and who leaves the State for a short stay, writes to have his paper follow him. There is a large number of them, and this paper follows. Evidence that the True Democrat is on the right track, is appreciated, and that we stand for something. Truly, the day of the schemer in public office is fast coming to a close.

"The Good Old Summer Time" is fast wasting away and the cry ere long will be, "Is it cold enough for you?" It is hard to please everybody, all the time. In the summer it is too hot, in the winter too cold! Human desires are hard to satisfy at best, so let's take things as they come cheerfully, pleasantly, satisfactorily, and strive to fill this old world with sunshine and pleasantness for those with whom we come in contact, always performing a duty the best we can.

Some months ago the Board of Internal Improvements farmed out Special Privileges "to mine" logs in the beds of rivers to the State printer (I. B. Hilson and associates), and excepted certain territory where they had granted some such rights to Mr. Bell (their agent). The Hilson aggregation were to make reports and pay into the I. I. treasury in August what might be coming their way. The people of Florida have never been informed what it all meant, and what came out of it. Now, don't go all to pieces because attention is called to this matter. Our people would just like to know a little something about this Hilson-Associates-I. I. business, since he has in the past figured so extensively in public affairs, and has affiliated so nicely with public men and measures.

The True Democrat follows its readers wheresoever they may go; not a subscriber who leaves home for a season but what writes to have it follow. It stands for something, the people are fast rallying to it, and it will succeed in doing good.

WE'LL FURNISH HIM.

While the papers throughout the State are saying many good things about the Tribune's suggestion of Hon. Robert W. Davis, of this city, for the United States Senate, it can safely be accepted that Colonel Davis has no aspirations in that direction. Col. Davis has repeatedly declared his determination to take no active part in politics in future. Tampa will come to the front however, with the next Senator when the proper time arrives. The remainder of the State may "sit up and take notice" of this little "tip" without further ado. —Up the State they are receiving the Gordon gubernatorial announcement with "a grain of salt." That's almost equivalent to saying that our genial Judge is a bit too "fresh." —Tampa Tribune, 21st.

We catch the "tip" O. K. and as we have before arose to remark, when the time arrives to elect a Senator, that Tampa has a man that will do. Hon. Stephen M. Sparkman is the man Floridians should make it Senator when Hon. Stephen S. Mallory decides he has enough of it. Mr. Mallory is a hard working, valuable Senator and will no doubt stand for another election.

Please somebody chastise John Collins! A little boy with no better manners than to speak disrespectfully of his superiors, in authority over him, should be sent superfluous to bed. —Mrs. Neva C. Child, Editor Arcadia Champion.

Perhaps that might be a good way to attempt to refute or overshadow the many occurrences John Collins' True Democrat has given publicity to. Certainly it would be a little better than were the efforts in letter writing, grammar schools, etc.; but, dear sister, mother, grandmother or what not (as we do not know your age), you had better come up and do the spanking act for your loved ones. We used to get it, and take it like a little man, from our angel mother, who always taught us to advocate and fight for what we conscientiously considered was right, and until this day we thank her for it. As to our "superiors," so long as we are honest, and keep clean, we consider no man our superior in ordinary affairs of life, even if by accident some scheming tricksters do happen to get a little authority over us. Public men, who abuse a trust placed in them, look as ugly to us as do ugly acts in smaller men. If your most worshipful will prove to the people of Florida that the True Democrat has lied on them or done them a willful injustice, we promise you "to run and make haste to get that spanking," but as things now stand, "we stand pat" in our position, and again call upon the people of Florida to begin preparation for putting better men in several of these positions of authority over us all.

There is enough good farming land in this section to keep several thousand farmers busy planting and harvesting their crops. And these lands are cheap to-day but have an upward tendency. If there was a scarcity of land in Florida, there would be reason in draining the everglades. But there is no scarcity of land, hence the draining of the everglades is an unwise and foolish bit of extravagance. —Apalachicola Times.

Would the signers of the "wet and dry" petition stab Hernando county to the heart, just as she is arising to a bright, happy and useful future? Which do you prefer, a school house to make good citizens of our boys and girls or an open saloon to make of them criminals and food for the gallows. You can't favor school houses and barrooms without being inconsistent. —Brooksville Argus.

Leon county is threatened with another wet and dry election. The petition is now being circulated by "the wets." John Collins with his True Democrat is in the front ranks for the "drys" and he proposes to publish the names of those who sign the petition. Go it Collins! —Carrabelle Advertiser.

The Tallahassee True Democrat is making a splendid fight against the re-entrance of the whiskey traffic into Leon county, and with his characteristic courage and energy and force Editor Collins is dealing sledge-hammer blows in the good cause of sobriety and all that sobriety implies against the forces of intemperance. It is an issue in which the right and reason are all on one side, but the old Adam is on the other, and that venerable but stalwart sinner always puts up a stiff fight. —Live Oak Democrat.

"Would like to see the ponds east of town drained before all the money is spent on the Everglades." —Nassau Star.

Better get your claim in soon, as those drainage funds must be getting on the ragged-edge again.

The DeSoto County News, says: "Little fish should keep near the shore. Larger fish can venture more."

OTHER EDITORS EDITORIALS.

If Trustees Jennings and other Baptists of the State should succeed in placing the control of the Stetson University in the hands of the Baptist Convention of Florida, thereby making it a purely sectarian school, it will be a severe blow to the growth, usefulness and future prosperity of the institution. It will have already seen its best days. —Volusia Record.

Hon. Newton A. Blitch, who will succeed Hon. Jefferson B. Browne as Railroad Commissioner on January 1st, 1907, was a welcome visitor to The Sun office Friday. Mr. Blitch served the people for many years as a member of the House and Senate from Levy county, and at present is inspector of State convicts. He has been faithful to every trust reposed in him in the past, and no one doubts that he will prove equally so in the more responsible office he has been called upon to occupy for the next four years. —Gainesville Sun.

The attempt made to make the voters of Florida believe that it is the railroads and corporations which are opposing the Governor's drainage scheme is all rot. There are thousands of people all over the State who supported the Governor and who have never affiliated with the railroad faction, who are opposing this drainage scheme and are working for the defeat of the proposed constitutional amendment which, if adopted, will give the Board of Internal Improvement the power to levy a tax upon the people of this State that will be a great burden upon them for many, many years to come. This railroad and corporation influence talk is the cunning deception used by drainage advocates. If successful they see a prolific field for graft, affording a get rich quick scheme the State should not give these schemers this coveted opportunity. —Volusia Record.

Governor Broward, in attempting to defend the Trustees of the I. I. Fund in their strained and unprecedented construction of the Act of 1885 as to the proper kind of "arrangement" for the drainage and reclamation of the swamp and overflowed lands, ignores the fact that for more than fifty years that the Act has been in force (for over half of which period it was administered by such men of our own generation as Drew, Bloxham, Perry, Mitchel, Fleming, Raney, Gwynn, Barnes, L'Engle, White, Womwell and many others of the very flower of the Florida Democracy), no such interpretation has ever before been placed upon the law as that now contended for. Are the Democratic voters of Florida willing to accept the proposition that those wise and faithful officials did not know the law. —Leesburg Commercial.

Governor Broward has a dredge throwing a little mud down near Fort Lauderdale, and it will take it ten years to reach Lake Okeechobee. And it will take ten millions of tax payers' money to build other dredges and to complete a system of ditches to that lake with the probabilities that this great sum of the people's money has been squandered. —Volusia Record.

One of the liveliest papers and at the same time one of the best edited in the state is the Tallahassee True Democrat. Editor Collins hews to the line and allows the chips to fall where they may. He is bitterly opposed to the Everglade drainage scheme and does not fail to say so. He is on the ground floor at Tallahassee and seems to be in position to know whereof he speaks. To read his excellent paper one naturally comes to the conclusion that he is "agin the government." —Lakeland Sun.

The Ocala Banner recently reported a valuable bit of testimony concerning the Everglade drainage proposition in an interview with Mr. C. F. Venable, an old citizen of Sumter county, who has had exceptional opportunities for acquiring information, having spent several months in that region with a surveying party. He said that the scheme of Governor Broward is feasible; that there is sufficient fall to make it feasible, but that it will cost a large sum of money, and after it is drained, Mr. Venable says that more than 85 per cent of the land reclaimed would be absolutely valueless. That the bottom of those submerged lands is pure white sand; and the lands that are submerged embracing, in many instances, large areas are treeless and shrubless, and, indeed, so poor that they do not contain a single blade of grass. Besides this Mr. Venable says that outside of Lake Okeechobee in the Everglades proper, there are large springs such as Silver Springs and a hundred little springs gushing from the bowels of the earth in all directions. Mr. Venable's conclusions are that the scheme is an immensely costly one and if successful will prove to be entirely unprofitable. —Leesburg Commercial.

PUMP SNAKE EGGS.

Wednesday we received the following telegram, which explains itself: Green Cove Springs, Fla., Aug. 1, 1906. To John G. Collins, True Democrat: See Times-Union. Please send Col. William Jennings Bryan a dozen "Pump Snake Eggs." L. J. B.

We will do that thing when Capt. Menge sends us that car load lot, if there is any left after the remedy has been applied to those who need the Pump Snake Egg specific so very much up in this neck of the woods. You know it will take quite a lot to dose those whom we applied it to last week.

If "True Democrat" means kicking against a Democratic administration, Tallahassee has the genuine article. —Florida Advocate.

True Democrat should always mean something more than defending one who was put in power, "whether right or wrong." The Tallahassee True Democrat has seen many things done wrong by men who should be "True Democrats," and has denounced them, and will continue the work of denunciation so long as it sees it. It was established to mean something, and will not hesitate one minute in calling attention to such abuses, until they cease to exist. When the clouds are all "rolled away," and things are as they should be—in the interest of the people of Florida—then will we hold up, and not until then. Put people in the public offices again who do not believe they own them, and turn those out, from constable to Governor, who do think and act that way; and let the work commence at the next general elections. For about six years Florida has had her full share of abusers of official power.

Since Claude L'Engle took hold of the State printing there is a decided improvement in the appearance of the printed matter turned out for the State, but the question is, what is the administration going to do with Hilson? He must be taken care of. —Exchange.

He has been very well taken care of, thank you, if all accounts are true, and then, Hilson knew all the time how to take care of Hilson's interest. He is accredited with having the controlling interest in the Pensacola News, and the job printing office he has in operation, with bindery, etc., is said to be the largest and best equipped in West Florida. Besides, Hilson is said to have a plantation over there somewhere, that is highly improved, well stocked, and fenced "so a rabbit can't peep through it." However, we are informed there does not now exist between himself and "some of the powers" that be, that close brotherly love that once was, and that if certain things happen, it may be possible for Hilson to explode a few bombs. At any rate, Mr. Hilson is accredited with being "well fixed." The State printing is now being done in better and cleaner shape, and is now said not to be a disgrace to the State. As the last contract was "given to Hilson, for the Capital Publishing Co.," at outrageously high prices, the work should be first-class, and a little better, if possible, for decency's sake, to partially atone for the outrage in giving it out as was done.

Editor Collins, of the True Democrat, lost his temper in replying to some of his critics last week. It's a bad practice to write when one is mad, and it is hoped that our brethren will keep cool. —Levy Times-Democrat.

If we "lost our temper," we are glad of it, what little we may have had, for temper is a fine thing to be rid of in any one, and we truly do not like to have any such in our make-up. As to the toadies who worship at the shrine of abuses of trusts and the mills that grind grist for their henchmen, we do not care a rip. The True Democrat stands for something in the interest of the people of Florida, and no such putrid efforts to drive us from the policy we have laid out for our paper will accomplish the purpose. We would rather be the tail-end of a yellow dog than the mouthpiece for anything that was irregular, rotten, or abusive to the people, and surely cannot be a "bump on a log," by seeing wrong-doing going on and "keeping our mouth shut up." The True Democrat is not a prosecuting officer, nor a court of justice, but this newspaper will continue to give publicity to affairs of deep interest to the people of Florida, and maybe, some day, the constituted authorities will take those matters up and deal out justice to those who deserve it.

The Internal Improvement Board was in session again Wednesday, but as far as is known to the public no business could have been transacted of a public nature as nothing has been sent out to the press, by those who generally do the corresponding for the State House, and no public statement has been sent out as does the State Treasurer monthly.

Important Notice.

There will be a special meeting of the Fraternal Union of America in the Elks Hall Monday evening, August 6th, 1906, at 8 o'clock p. m. Important business demands the attendance of all the members. I will receive and receipt for the monthly payment due now and payable before August 7, 1906.

ARTHUR C. SPILLER, Treasurer and Acting Secretary.

In Honor of Miss James.

Last evening the beautiful home of Mr. O. C. VanBrunt, Lafayette street, was tastily and elegantly decorated for a bean party, in honor of Miss Helen James, of Atlanta. The two parlors, hall and wide porch were all draped in evergreens, from hollies and firs to cedars and ferns.

The feature of the evening was a progressive bean game, the one person of the four at each table who could put the most beans in a dish in five minutes, using tooth picks, advanced to the next table, receiving a punch in his card, which was in the shape of a bean pot.

Mr. Walter McLin received the first prize which was a large porcelain bean-pot. The consolation prize was won by Miss Lila Bryan. It was a bag of beans bearing the inscription: "U don't no beans."

Then the playing plates were removed and those who were slow in bean pulling had a chance to make up on good things to eat. The first course was an elegant supper, consisting of all sorts of "goodies," then the dessert, ice creams and cakes.

A large crowd was present and all enjoyed the evening immensely.

It is reported that Hon. S. W. Clark, of Blountstown, will probably make the race in 1908 for Secretary of State against Mr. Crawford. H. Clay, however, is as yet losing no sleep over the report. —Palatka Times Herald.

Hon. H. Clay Crawford will be a hard man to defeat, and that man will have to be an exceptionally worthy man, as Hon. H. C., has many of the very excellent qualities of his venerable and universally loved father, the late John L. Crawford, one of the most conscientious and faithful public men who ever served in a cabinet position in Florida.

The True Democrat returns thanks for courtesies shown us at the State House this week by Hons. H. C. Crawford, B. E. McLin and W. V. Knott, whither we went for official information, and which was furnished us in the most pleasing and satisfactory manner. It is presumed Claude had his eagle eye upon us in that visit, as on a former one, and will chronicle the fact in today's Sun.

The True Democrat is your home local newspaper. Throw your influence and your patronage with it, and help us to make you the best newspaper ever published at Tallahassee. We can and will do it, with your help and encouragement.

DIED, at his residence, No. 109 East Georgia street, Sunday, July 29, 1906, p. m., Joseph K. Snyder, aged 71 years. Mr. Snyder was a native of Quitman, Mo., and had resided here about five years. He was a Methodist by faith. His death was caused by lung troubles. The funeral was held at 3.45 p. m., July 30th, 1906, from his late residence, and was interred in the city cemetery, the following acting as pall-bearers: Messrs. J. J. Hodges, J. P. Wilcox, E. G. Chesley, H. J. Handley, G. W. Saxon and W. A. Demilly. His widow survives him. The funeral arrangements were in charge of Joseph Duncan. Rev. W. M. Poage officiated. (Kansas City, Mo., papers please copy.)

Negligee Shirts for summer wear being sold at popular prices by Burns & Co. Call and make your selection. 43

DEAR DOC: If you should see this write me at once. Your loving brother, J. S. OSBORN.

43-4w Box 218, Elkins, W. Va.

Mr. R. W. Cobb made a business trip to Live Oak Wednesday.

Mrs. R. W. Cobb left Friday for a visit of a few months to her home in Tennessee.

Miss Maud Pittman left Saturday for her home in Marianna, having been the guest of Miss Dickenson for two weeks.

Miss Mamie Cherry returned to Tallahassee Tuesday from Knoxville, Tenn., where she has been attending the summer normal school.

Large stock of Washable Ties to be disposed of at Burns & Co.'s to make room for fall styles. 43

Mr. Robert King, of Rome, Ga., was in the city this week in the interests of Davidson College.

Mrs. William Johnson, from Centreville neighborhood, was in the city yesterday visiting friends.

Miss Carrie Macon, who has been visiting Tallahassee friends, leaves today for a visit to Apalachicola as the guest of her sister.

The True Democrat is indebted to Mrs. C. A. Bryan, Jr., for a fine watermelon which she sent in to us last Saturday.

Immediately after services on Sunday there will be a congregational meeting in the Presbyterian church. Everybody requested to attend, as there will be business of importance transacted.

Burns & Co. have received their fall samples of Tailor-made Clothing, which are now ready for inspection. 43

Miss Beadie Damon left this week for a few weeks in Saluda, N. C.